US   BO44718/DBO/FtH

Claims

1. A method of treating or preventing obesity, overweight, fluctuations in blood insulin levels and/or fluctuations in blood glucose levels in mammals, said method comprising the enteral administration to a mammal of an effective amount of a preparation containing an enzyme capable of converting an ingested carbohydrate or digestion product thereof into one or more absorbable components, wherein the total metabolic caloric value of the absorbable component(s) is less than the metabolic caloric value of the ingested carbohydrate or digestion product thereof.

2. Method according to claim 1, wherein the enzyme is an isomerase.

3. Method according to claim 2, wherein the isomerase is glucose isomerase.

4. Method according to claim 2, wherein the method comprises administering 0.5 to 1500 international units (IU) enzyme per kg body weight of the mammal per dosage.

5. Method according to claim 1, wherein the absorbable component has substantially the same molecular weight as the ingested carbohydrate or the digestion product that the enzyme is capable of converting to the absorbable component.

6. Method according to claim 1, wherein the preparation is provided with a coating that prevents reduction of activity of the enzyme by stomach acid and/or stomach proteases.

7. Method according to claim 1, wherein said enzyme is administered to the mammal during a period of 60 minutes before and 60 minutes after ingestion of a carbohydrate and wherein the total amount of carbohydrate ingested during said period exceeds 5 grams.

17

US

8. Methodaccording to claim 1, wherein the preparation further comprises one or more components selected from the group consisting of: carbohydrate absorption inhibitors, carbohydrase inhibitors and enzymes capable of synthesizing sparingly digestible saccharides from easily digestible saccharides.

5

9. A pill for oral administration provided with an enteric coating and containing 25 to 10.000 IU glucose isomerase per gram.